

## Message Text

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54

ACTION AID-20

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 FDRE-00 PC-10 USIA-15 IO-14

DODE-00 AGR-20 INT-08 COME-00 SS-20 NSC-10 PRS-01

PA-04 IGA-02 DRC-01 RSC-01 /137 W

----- 016718

P 131510Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7143

UNCLAS NIAMEY 450

AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID SWEL

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT VISITS DROUGHT-STRICKEN TAHOUA REGION

1. AT THE CONCLUSION OF FIVE-DAY VISIT (FEB 6-10) TO DROUGHT-STRICKEN AREAS IN DEPARTMENT OF TAHOUA, PRESIDENT DIORI DESCRIBED SITUATION OF NOMADS AS CATASTROPHIC. DIROI WAS ESPECIALLY STRUCK BY EXTREME SUFFERING AMONG VERY YOUNG. HE TERMED PLIGHT OF TUAREG AND FULANI NOMADS GATHERED AROUND URBAN CENTERS AS MUCH WORSE THAN WHAT HE SAW ON VISIT TO AGADEZ LAST SUMMER. CHARGE'S TRIP IN JANUARY THROUGH TAHOUA REGION LED TO SIMILAR CONCLUSIONS.

2. PRESIDENT DIORI ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT MEETING OF PARTI PROGRESSISTE NIGERIEN AND GOVERNMENT WOULD BE ORGANIZED TO CONSIDER EMERGENCY MEASURES AND THAT ADDITIONAL GRAIN, VEGETABLES AND BLANKETS WOULD BE IMMEDIATELY SENT TO THE STRICKEN ARE. HE REITERATED APPEAL FOR AID FROM INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

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3. IN MEETING WITH RDO ON FEB 12 MINDEVELOPMENT BEMBELLO (WHO ACCOMPANIED DIORI) REFERRED TO TRIP AND GRIMLY REMARKED THAT THE NEED FOR THE REQUESTED 100,000 TONS OF US SORGHUM AND 10,000 MT CORN WAS INDEED DESPERATE, AND URGED US TO CONTINUE TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT EXPEDITE APPROVAL AND EARLIEST POSSIBLE SHIPMENT.

4. RDO AND CHARGE HAVE REQUESTED MEETING WITH PRESIDENT DIORI TO DISCUSS AID MATTERS (EXPECTED FEB 14 OR 15). WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION BEFORE MEETING THAT NIGER WILL RECEIVE 35,000 MT SORGHUM FROM LATEST SAHELIAN TRANCHE. BUCHE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FAMINE, DISASTER RELIEF, CORN, DROUGHTS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, GRAINS, VEGETABLES, SORGHUM  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 FEB 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1974NIAMEY00450  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION AID  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Subject:** PRESIDENT VISITS DROUGHT-STRICKEN TAHOUA REGION  
**TAGS:** EAID, SWEL, NG, (DIORI, HAMANI)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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